

Message Text

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10

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /087 W
----- 037894

R 212150Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5342

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 2624

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AR

SUBJECT: DIPLOMATIC CORPS CALLS ON JUNTA

REF: BUENOS AIRES 2254

1. AT 10:30 A.M. TODAY APRIL 21 THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS WAS INVITED TO CASA ROSADA TO OFFICIALLY MEET THE THREE MEMBERS OF THE JUNTA. IN WELL-ORGANIZED CEREMONY AMBASSADORS FILED PAST THE THREE MEMBERS OF THE JUNTA AND AFTERWARD WERE ABLE TO EXCHANGE BRIEF REMARKS WITH JUNTA MEMBERS.

2. THE CANADIAN AND PANAMANIAN AMBASSADORS WERE CONSPICUOUS BY THEIR ABSENCE. WITH RESPECT TO THE CANADIAN AMBASSADOR, WHO IS IN URUGUAY, HIS ABSENCE AT THIS MEETING ALONG WITH PREVIOUS ABSENCE AT FOREIGN MINISTER'S RECEPTION FOR CORPS LED TO SPECULATION THAT THERE MIGHT BE MORE THAN JUST COINCIDENCE BEHIND HIS NONATTENDANCE. THERE WAS SOME FEELING EXPRESSED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT'S STAND ON RECOGNITION, WHICH THEY LINKED TO GUARANTEES RE SAFEGUARDS AND FACT THAT THE DE IPOLA CASE HAD BEEN RAISED IN CANADIAN PARLIAMENT, MIGHT HAVE DECIDED HIM TO STAY IN URUGUAY A FEW DAYS LONGER.

3. PANAMA HAS STILL NOT RECOGNIZED NEW GOVERNMENT. PANAMANIAN
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AMBASSADOR HERE IS ALMOST DESPERATE. SAYS HE HAS CALLED PANAMA

SEVERAL TIMES TO FIND OUT WHY THEY ARE HOLDING UP. EACH TIME HAS GOTTEN VAGUE REPLIES. HE FEARS THAT GOA MAY SOON BEGIN TO "CUT OFF WATER" TO HIS EMBASSY--FIGURATIVELY SPEAKING IF NOT IN FACT.

4. AMBASSADOR HILL HAD OPPORTUNITY TO TALK TO ALL THREE CINCS, WHO APPEARED IN GOOD SPIRITS AND AFFABLY DISPOSED TOWARD THE AMBASSADOR. IN BRIEF EXCHANGE WITH AGOSTI, THE AIR FORCE CINC REFERRED TO THEIR PREVIOUS MEETING BEFORE THE COUP AND WAS ESPECIALLY JOVIAL. AS AMBASSADOR WAS LEAVING FOLLOWING END OF BRIEF CEREMONY, GENERAL VIDELA IN PRIVATE ASIDE SAID, "I WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU AND YOUR EMBASSY FOR YOUR CONDUCT."

HILL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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